

September 28, 1960

Dr. C. B. Anfinsen, Jr.  
Chief, Laboratory of Cellular  
Physiology and Metabolism  
National Heart Institute  
National Institutes of Health  
Bethesda 14, Maryland

Dear Chris:

To yours of the 21st.

My immediate reactions to the trip were rather negative but perhaps I ought to think better of it and at least stall until the program is more definite. I am very much impressed by the prospect of an official visit of geneticists of the sort we represent to the Soviet Union. You may recall that I was invited to go this year but I refused to conceal my professional affiliation under the cloak of "Cytology and Morphology" and anyhow, I was just too busy.

I am not especially keen about tourism and if there were any way of scheduling my own part in this, even as a much appreciated personal concession, so that I could keep my own stay down to a week or ten days in Moscow and perhaps Leningrad, I would very much appreciate it.

As you might surmise, I would be very much interested to make the trip do double duty as a chance of making more effective contact with Russian exobiology. However, if this is to be done, it may be desirable to formalize it; if not, perhaps I had better purposely steer clear of that subject. At any rate, here is an item to think of in planning the program.

The one Russian geneticist that I know is actively working in a sensible area of microbial genetics is Alikhanin. He was supposed to participate in the recent symposium on the Genetics of Actinomycetes at the New York Academy of Sciences but he never showed up.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg  
Professor of Genetics

ANFINSSEN, C.B.